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MATCH DAY STAR Paul Dee

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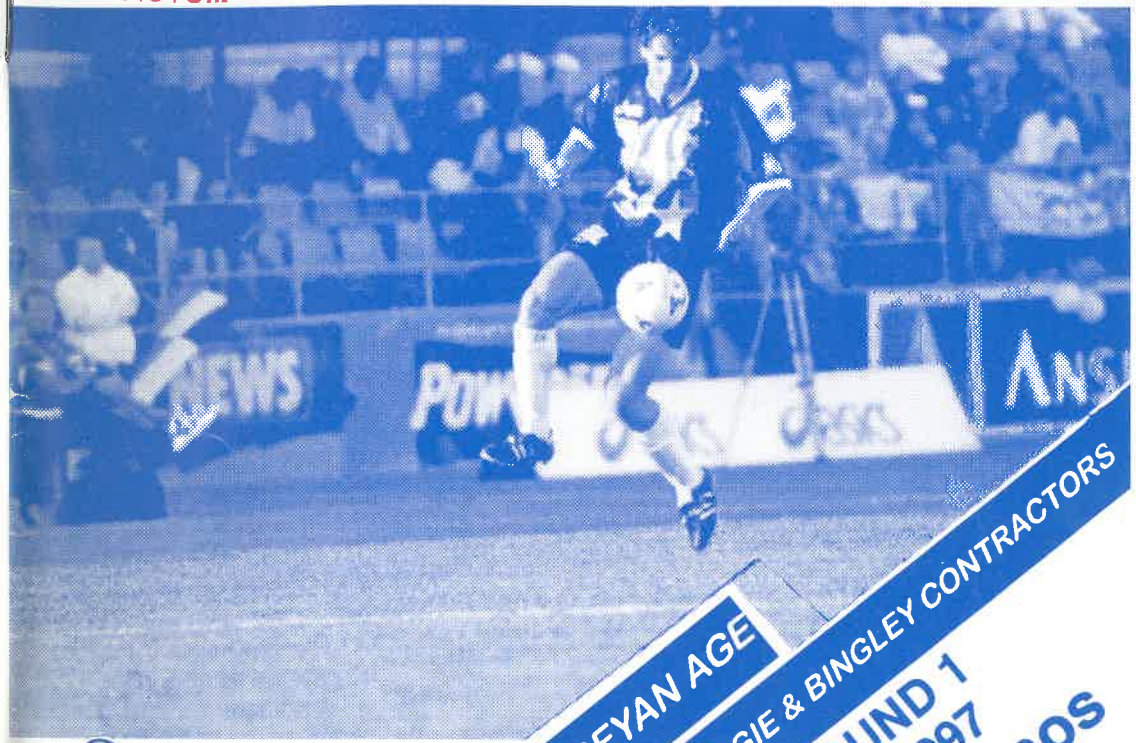

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ERICSSON CUP ROUND 1
Saturday 4 October 1997
Novell® Canberra Cosmos v Sydney United

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CANBERRA Cosmos

Novell®

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founded 1995

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Deakin ACT

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Home Ground
Seiffert Sports Ground

Chairman
Paul Murphy

President
Ian Knop

Head Coach
Branko Culina

Networking the world game

THE OPENING day of the new National Soccer League season and the first time the new Novell Canberra Cosmos takes the field means that the ACT Government vision of making Canberra a major soccer stronghold by the 2000 Olympics has started in earnest.

Our sponsorship of Canberra soccer fully supports this vision and will embrace all levels: from the grassroots of junior boys and girls to the far-flung grounds of the National Soccer League.

A few details about the club's Principal Sponsor, Novell. The company is headquartered in Utah in the USA and is the world's largest network software company with more than 60 million customers world-wide.

We have been creating network software for the past 15 years that has enabled our customers to link all their computers in order to communicate and collaborate effectively. Now with the explosion of the Internet, Novell is offering fast and secure technology for Internet access that will allow our customers to compete more effectively not only locally, but nationally and internationally.

As Principal Sponsor of both the Novell Canberra Cosmos and Soccer Canberra until the year 2000 this is not just a vote of confidence in the future of soccer, it is a confident investment and belief in Canberra's real and potential ability to play a significant role in the exciting internet era of information technology.

This technology will have a profound impact on governments, on businesses and on individuals. By the year 2000 Novell will have connected 1 billion people all over the globe to these ever expanding networks, conveniently, effectively and, above all, securely.

Soccer is the sport of this new networked world. The most supported sport on the globe and described by many as the 'world game', soccer has much in common with the world of the Internet, both as a passport and a language to the world. It is a network of people – connected by the skill of the game and by the rush of competition.

And so to today's game: Novell Canberra Cosmos have a new coach, new look, new energy and a new enthusiasm. My colleagues in Novell Australasia and I wish the club every success for the new season.

Cliff Smith
Managing Director, Novell Australasia

The night the new Cosmos were born

CANBERRA Cosmos Novell.

Bruce Campbell was amongst a handful of hardy soccer fans the night the Cosmos turned on the style – for the first time

IT WAS a real dilemma, and one for which there was no black and white answer.

On the one hand the team needed support and on the other they were playing a competition game.

The problem came with the fact that I was stuck with a radio broadcaster's headset on – and the side was playing lousy.

Listeners to my *Boots'n'Balls* programme (Triple S Sundays at 9pm) were left with no illusion that their team hadn't played well.

In truth I would rather have not been there, I would rather have taken the easy way out and stayed at home.

But in a Rockdale cafe after the game co-presenter Ian Heywood and I shared a coffee with coach Branko Culina and got an insight into his preparation's.

Was he disappointed? Not really.

Did he think the defeat by Olympic in the Waratah Cup a bad result? Not really.

Hey, this is different.

Instead Branko gave us a peep into his build-up for the *Ericsson Cup* – as far as he was concerned the ONLY competition which counted.

He told of his desire to see his side the fittest in the league, a side which could run all day while the others caved in in the last quarter of an hour.

And we already knew just how tough the morning 'jogs' through Stromlo Forest were, something which saw the side pick up a nickname of the Stromlo Strollers.

And it was a nickname which they were happy to lose just as quick as it arrived on the scene, when Culina finally decided that the Cosmos version 1997 were fit enough.

After that you could see the players acquire more mobility, with the leader legs suddenly lost.

And last week in a practice game against Deakin the Novell Canberra Cosmos showed the glimmer of form that all fans in Canberra hope will see the dawn of a new era.

The scoreline might have 'only' been 5–1 but in truth it could have been a dozen.

I've got a feeling that the handful of spectators on that typically drizzly Canberra spring night saw the re-birth of the Cosmos.

Time will tell.

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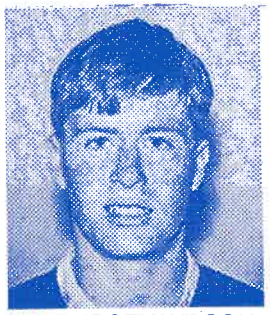

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2 Paul Dee
3 Andy Roberts
4 Ivan Zelic
4 Andy Ravanello
6 Ante Moric
7 Rodrigo
8 Norman Kelly (C)
9 Harry James
10 Michael Musitano
11 Peter Buljan
13 Lindsay Wilson
14 Dale Wingell
15 Marko Perinovic
16 Toplica Popovich
17 Ilija Prenzoski
18 Tom Haythornwaite
19 Damien Brown
20 Barney Smith
21 Adrian Dowling
29 Paul Jones
COACH: Branko Culina

SYDNEY UNITED

1 John Perosh
2 David Barrett
3 Velimir Kupresak
5 Richard Plesa
6 Joe Vrkic
7 Robert Hooker
8 Marcus Phillips
9 Tony Krslovic
10 Abbas Saad
11 Davie Mitchell
12 Azur Mujanovic
13 Stuart Munro
14 Steve Refenes
15 Jason Culina
16 Dean Culina
17 Paul Bilokapic
18 Jacob Burns
19 Joe Moric
20 Andrew Crews
21 Mark Rudan
23 Tom Maric
24 Mario Jerman
25 Domenic Usalj
COACH: David Mitchell

Sydney similarities

Clashes between the two clubs have a rich and interesting history – even although the Cosmos are not much past their second birthday.

United represent a string of firsts for Canberra; they were the first NSL side the club ever played (in the 1995 Waratah Cup), they were the first side to ever play a home game against the Cosmos (at Bruce Stadium in (October 1995) and they still stand in the club's record books as the biggest ever home attendance (5,460 in that same match).

The two sides also share another unlikely (and unwanted) distinction in that they both had their status in this season's Ericsson Cup in doubt at some stage.

Lastly, the Cosmos share another tag with United – Branko Culina. United had him when he was named Australian Coach of the Year and now the Novell Canberra Cosmos list him in their match day list.

Oh, plus Ante Moric, of course, the former United Socceroo who lines up tonight for his debut in Cosmos colours.

Maybe the final similarity is that both clubs have gone through massive rebuilding programmes in the off-season.

But one thing that United have long established a reputation for, and something that the Cosmos have high on the list of priorities, is an attractive flowing brand of football.

Tonight they come to Canberra under new player/coach Davie Mitchell, one of the best known players Australia has produced since the war.

Mitchell has assembled his squad with a rich mix of experience and youth, including new signings Stuart Munro (former Glasgow Rangers) and Marcus Phillips (a former colleague at Swindon Town).

Because of all the above tonight's match is sure to be a real cracker – welcome Sydney United.

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Novell Canberra Cosmos

[ ] v [ ]

Sydney United

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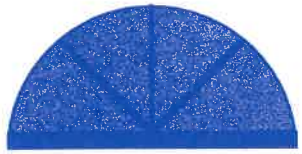

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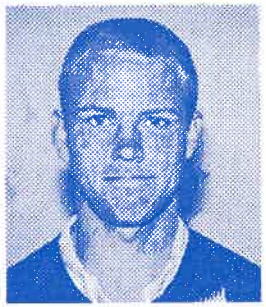

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The ACT Academy

Due mainly to age requirements a number of players from last season's ACT Academy squad have 'retired', including the Barac brothers (Michael and Anthony) who recently starred for Canberra Deakin in the Premier League Grand Final, Luke Larfield, John Glass, Jason Markezic, Ben Stephenson and Craig Unwin.

David Unwin has also moved on – to the Australian Institute of Sport.

New players into the squad this year include experienced midfielder Jose Exposito from Olympic, youngster Goran Talevski from Canberra Deakin, Ned Aleksic from Canberra City, defenders Luke Morgan and Yosef Zamora from Juventus, exciting striker Stephen Lee from Tuggeranong United and a newcomer to the ACT, Matt Julienne who has just moved from Browlee on the South Coast.

The latest addition to the squad is talented ball player Jaime Mauro from Belconnen.

1 Blair Machin
2 Simon Agnello
3 Oscar Zamora
4 Mikey Katz
5 Lindsey Wilson
6 Jose Exposito
7 Matt Valeri
8 Jaime Mauro
9
10 Stephen Lee
11 Shane Lyons
12 Robert Grande
GK Hassan Adhami
14 Tommy Bajurin
15 Brent Chick
16 Luke Morgan
other squad members;
Ned Aleksic
Wes Bryett
Matt Julienne
Goran Talevski
Yosef Zamora
Head Coach: Chris Tanzey
Assistant Coach: Rod Lynes
Team Manager: Chris Conti

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